CLAIMS

What Is Claimed Is:

1. A system for managing configuration inconsistencies between a network management system (NMS) and network elements (NEs), the system comprising:

a user-interface including:

an object field configured to identify database objects of the network management system, wherein each database object corresponds to a network element;

a network device field configured to identify a top level network device that contains the network element;

a status field configured to display a database object state, wherein the database object state represents a relationship between the database object configuration and the network element configuration; and

an input mechanism configured to issue a command to edit one of network element values and database object values.

2. The system of Claim 1, wherein the network element values define the configuration of the network element, and

wherein the database object values define the configuration of the database object.

3. The system of Claim 1, wherein a state of the database object is one of:

conflict, meaning some inconsistency exists between the database object configuration and the network element configuration;

local, meaning no network element exists for a selected database object;

agent, meaning that a network element exists, but that no corresponding database object exists; and

normal, meaning both the database object and the network element have exactly the same configuration.

4. The system of Claim 3, wherein the state of the database object is conflict, and the input mechanism is a button configured to issue a command to have the network element acquire the database object values.

5. The system of Claim 3, wherein the state of the database object is conflict, and the input mechanism is a button configured to issue a command to have the database object acquire the network element values.

6. The system of Claim 3, wherein the state of the database object is LOCAL, and the input mechanism is a button configured to issue a command to create a network element having the database object values.

7. The system of Claim 3, wherein the state of the database object is agent, and the input mechanism is a button configured to issue a command to create a database object having the network element values.

8. A method for managing attribute inconsistencies between a network management system (NMS) and a network element (NE), the method comprising:

providing an object field in a user interface to identify database objects of the network management system, wherein each database object corresponds to a network element;

providing a network device field configured to identify a top level network device that contains the network element;

providing a status field configured to display a database object state, wherein the database object state represents a relationship between the database

object configuration and the network element configuration; and

issuing a command to edit one of network element values and database object values.

9. The method of Claim 8, wherein the network element values define the configuration of the network element, and wherein the database object values define the configuration of the database object.

10. The method of Claim 8, further comprising providing in the object field a state of the database object as being one of:

conflict, meaning some inconsistency exists between the database object configuration and the network element configuration;

LOCAL, meaning no network element exists for a selected database object;

agent, meaning that a network element exists, but that no corresponding database object exists; and

normal, meaning both the database object and the network element have exactly the same configuration.

11. The method of Claim 10, wherein the state of the database object is conflict, the method further comprising issuing a command to have the network element acquire the database object values.

12. The method of Claim 10, wherein the state of the database object is conflict, the method further comprising issuing a command to have the database object acquire the network element values.

13. The method of Claim 10, wherein the state of the database object is LOCAL, the method further comprising issuing a command to create a network element having the database object values.

14. The method of Claim 10, wherein the state of the database object is agent, the method further comprising issues a command to create a database object having the network element values.

15. The method of Claim 8, further comprising:

resynchronizing the network management system and the network element; and

carrying out the command to edit one of the network element values and the database object values.

16. A computer-readable medium carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions for managing attribute inconsistencies between a network management system (NMS) and a network element (NE), the one or more sequences of one or more instructions including instructions which, when executed by one or more processors, cause the one or more processors to perform the steps of:

providing an object field in a user interface to identify database objects of the network management system, wherein each database object corresponds to a network element;

providing an agent field configured to identify the network element;

providing a status field configured to display a database object state, wherein the database object state represents a relationship between the database object configuration and the network element configuration; and

issuing a command to edit one of network element values and database object values.

17. The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein the network element values define the configuration of the network element, and wherein the database object values define the configuration of the database object.

18. The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein the instructions further cause the processor to carry out the step of providing in the object field a state of the database object as being one of:

conflict, meaning some inconsistency exists between the database object configuration and the network element configuration;

LOCAL, meaning no network element exists for a selected database object;

agent, meaning that a network element exists, but that no corresponding database object exists; and

normal, meaning both the database object and the network element have exactly the same configuration.

19. The computer-readable medium of Claim 18, wherein the state of the database object is conflict, and wherein the instructions further cause the processor to issue a command to have the network element acquire the database object values.

20. The computer-readable medium of Claim 18, wherein the state of the database object is conflict, and wherein the instructions further cause the processor to issue a command to have the database objec acquire the network element values.

21. The computer-readable medium of Claim 18, wherein the state of the database object is LOCAL, and wherein the instructions further cause the processor to issue a command to create a network element having the database object values.

22. The computer-readable medium of Claim 18, wherein the state of the database object is agent, and wherein the instructions further cause the processor to issue a command to create a database object having the network element values.

23. The computer-readable medium of Claim 16, wherein the instructions further cause the processor to carry out the steps of:

resyncing the network management system and the network element; and

carrying out the command to edit one of the network element values and the database object values.